



News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Kind Touts Earned Income Tax Credit for Working Families

More Than 8,500 Eligible Western Wisconsin Families are Not Claiming EITC Benefit

Washington, DC – As Tax Day approaches, **Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI)** today encouraged western Wisconsin families to find out if they are eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), a federal tax benefit that helps low- and moderate-income workers increase their financial stability. It is estimated that there are currently more than 8,500 individuals in the Third Congressional District that are eligible, but not claiming, this important tax benefit.

“Western Wisconsin families who work hard and are struggling to make ends meet deserve this opportunity to keep more of the money they’ve earned and use it to build a better future,” Rep. Kind said.

The EITC is a credit of up to \$4,536 for working families making less than \$38,348, and is based on income and the number of qualifying children. EITC has been proven to help reduce poverty, make work more attractive than government assistance, and help working families build assets. Families typically use the money for such things as paying bills, purchasing or repairing cars, or sending a child to college.

In 2005, more than 300,000 Wisconsin residents filed for and received the EITC, including nearly 43,000 in the Third Congressional District. Yet 20 to 25 percent of the people who are eligible don’t know it exists, if they qualify, or how to claim it.

“I encourage families to find out if they are eligible,” Rep. Kind said. “The money saved by claiming the EITC can make a big difference when a family is struggling to pay the bills.”

For more information on the EITC, or to find out if you qualify, visit Congressman Kind’s website at <http://www.house.gov/kind/taxes.shtml> where you’ll find information on income requirements, and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites in your area. Taxpayers can also call 1-800-906-9887 or 1-800-829-1040 to locate their closest VITA site.

Rep. Kind is a new member of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee.